

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Virginia

*World Trade Center
Suite 8000, 101 West Main Street
Norfolk, Va. 23510*

757/441-6331

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2002

Further questions may be directed to:
Deanna Warren 757-441-6331

PRESS RELEASE

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Frederick Ashville Holloway, III, age 24, of Norfolk, Virginia, was sentenced today in the U.S. District Court in Norfolk on two felony drug and firearms charges to 288 months in federal prison. He was convicted on charges of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of cocaine base, commonly known as "crack" cocaine and with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

The federal charges initially arose out of an execution of a state search warrant in Norfolk, Virginia, on May 23, 2001, at a house from which Holloway and others had been selling drugs. At the time, Holloway was on bond following his earlier conviction in Norfolk on state charges of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute and probation on state convictions for contempt of court and reckless driving. During the search, crack cocaine, marihuana, drug paraphernalia and a loaded .380 caliber semiautomatic handgun were recovered.

The case was referred for federal prosecution under Project Exile. Holloway admitted at his sentencing to responsibility for at least 1.5 kilograms of crack cocaine in the conspiracy, which covered a period of over two years, and involved a wide array of firearms.

Project Exile is a multi-agency joint federal and state task force targeting armed criminals for prosecution in federal court for possession or use of firearms in violation of federal laws. It is a part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, a nationwide initiative of the Department of Justice to reduce gun-related violence. Under Project Exile a special task force of federal agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the Virginia State Police, and the police departments of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach, focus on prosecuting violations of the federal firearms laws. Other federal agencies, such as Secret Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) also contribute cases to Project Exile.

Holloway's case was investigated by ATF and officers from the Norfolk Police Department. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James A. Metcalfe.